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*668 in understanding the long-run economic potential of this region,
489 it is equally true that there must have been some other reasons
433 forcing them to develop this remote region more swiftly than they might otherwise have done, investing in it sizable amounts of much needed capital backed by considerable forced labor. Other factors, both internal and external, should therefore be taken into consideration. In the first place, Communist China had made a tremendous effort to shift the center of its gravity from the coastal regions into these relatively empty lands bordering Soviet central Asia, perhaps partly as a result of the United Nations embargo and the Korean War. Secondly, the forced pace of development in the Northwest might be partly a defense measure. During the War in Korea it became clear how vulnerable Manchuria was to bombing attacks. Had the United Nations chosen to do so, most of Manchuria's industrial complexes could have been destroyed. But in the Northwest, factories, railways and mines were far
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(648) safer than anywhere else in China. Moreover, this area would assure maximum secrecy for projects which Red China and Russia were reported to have been jointly undertaking. ("I Saw Communist China" by Robert Guillain in the Saturday Evening Post, June 2, 1956. p. 114.)

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*668 Following on the heels of the railway construction work, a
433 huge oil refinery at Lanchou was built. It is also reported that
(382) between Lanchou and the site of the refinery, a road was con-
(491) structed more than twice as wide as Fifth Avenue in New York city, and a large hill thickly covered with houses was completely
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(498) leveled to make the road straight. At Lanchou the railway yard under construction contained fifty kms. of tracks, with modern equipment such as turntables, grain silos, refrigerating plants and the like, all brought from Russia. Along the wide road, the beginning of what is called New Lanchou has arisen. In Sinkiang,
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668 a new city was born in Urumchi, where giant factories have been
433 built, including the Sinkiang Non-ferrous Metals Co., the Sin-
327 kiang Petroleum Co., the Sinkiang "August 1st" Iron and Steel
328 Plant, the Sinkiang Machinery Plant, the October Motor Car
382 Repair and Assembly Shop, the Urumchi Automatic Electric Plant, and the like. This accomplishment in industrial construction and
39 future plans of industrial development are indeed very much tied
(489) up with communications development.

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*668 Communist China may very well focus its principal attention
185 on the Northwest during the period of its second Five Year Plan
433 scheduled to begin in 1958, just as the first Five Year Plan con-
(648) centrated on the Northeast. The Northwest might then play a major role in the economic relations between China and Russia, and be industrialized to a level comparable with Manchuria.

It may therefore be concluded that so long as there are both internal and external pressures, and the "lean-to-one-side"